

Tips for Writing Parenthetical Citations

What is the format for parenthetical citation?

This in-text referencing system directs readers to a "Works Cited" list at the end of a research paper or accompanying a research project. The text reference usually includes an author name and location in the text being cited.

How to do parenthetical citations

The purpose of parenthetical references is to give credit to sources that you use.

- Cite direct quotations, paraphrases, ideas peculiar to an author, case studies, statistics, and graphics, such as maps, charts, diagrams, and scientific research results.
- Place citations directly after the quotation or paraphrase. Add the citation as you type.
- Include only the author's last name and page number(s) in parentheses at the end of the sentence: (Waters 12) .
- Use the name of the source as listed on the works-cited page if no author or editor is credited: (Webster's Dictionary 1990) .
- If the author's name appears in the same sentence as the cited material include only the page number: (12) .
- If more than one work by the same author is cited, use the author's last name, key word(s) from the title, and page number(s) in parentheses: (Smith, Journey Home 145)
- If there is no author listed, use the title of the work.
-

Correct Punctuation

End the quote, type a space, begin the parenthetical citation, list the author's name, type a space, list the page number alone without any punctuation or abbreviation, close the parenthetical citation, and then place your end punctuation.

- Do not use pg or p before the page number in your parenthetical citation.
- Do not use URL or web address in the parenthetical citation.